

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**  
**SECTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS**

## POST POST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN STB DOCKET NO. AB-6 (Sub-No. 446X)

**January 3, 2008**

### ABANDONMENT TYPE

☒ (X) Notice of Exemption    ☐ ( ) Petition for Exemption    ☐ ( ) Regulated Abandonment

The decision in this proceeding, served February 14, 2007, imposed a condition requiring BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) to retain its interest in and take no steps to alter the historic integrity of all historic properties including sites, buildings, structures, and objects within the project right-of-way (the Area of Potential Effect) that are eligible for listing or listed in the National Register of Historic Places until the Section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act, 16. U.S.C. 470f (NHPA), has been completed.

The attached correspondence dated November 8, 2007, from the Minnesota Historical Society (MN SHPO) indicates that the MN SHPO has determined that the abandonment would not result in adverse effects on historic properties. We concur with the MN SHPO's determination that the abandonment would not affect historic properties. The documentation for this finding, as specified at 36 CFR 800.11(d), consists of the railroad's historic report, all relevant correspondence, and the EA, which have been made available to the public through posting on the Board's website. SEA therefore recommends that the Section 106 condition imposed by the Board in this proceeding be removed at this time.

SEA CONTACT: Dave Navecky  
202-245-0294  
naveckyd@stb.dot.gov

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MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
State Historic Preservation Office

REC'D. LAW DEPT.  
NOV 12 2007  
FORT WORTH

November 8, 2007

Mr. Jake DeBoever  
BNSF Railway Company  
PO Box 961039  
Fort Worth, TX 76161-0039

Re: STB Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 446X)  
BNSF Railway Company Abandonment between milepost 90.87 and 95.15  
Bernidji, Beltrami County  
SHPO Number: 2006-2561

Dear Mr. DeBoever:

Thank you for submitting the report of the evaluation of the two historic railroad lines that may be affected by the above referenced undertaking.

Both of these railroad corridors, the Brainerd and Northern Minnesota Railroad and the Bemidji and International Falls Railroad meet National Register criteria.

Based on the project information included in the report on the nature of the sections of these two lines that will be affected, we conclude that the undertaking will have **no adverse effect** on historic properties

Contact our Compliance Section at 651-259-3456 with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Britta L. Bloomberg  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

cc: Tom Cinadr, SHPO  
Susan Odom, BNSF Railway Company